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DCID No. 1/2

**OS REGISTRY
RM. 4-E-49, HQS.**

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 1/2¹

**CURRENT U.S. FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE
REQUIREMENTS CATEGORIES AND
PRIORITIES**

(Effective 17 February 1977)

¹²⁰³⁶ Pursuant to Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947, Executive Order ~~11905~~, and National Security Directives, U.S. foreign intelligence requirements categories and priorities for operations and planning are hereby established.

1. Purpose

This directive sets forth by attachment hereto comprehensive requirements categories and priorities to serve as basic substantive guidance for the operation, planning, and programming of the overall U.S. foreign intelligence effort.

2. Concept of use

a. The current requirements categories and priorities set forth in the attachment reflect solely the relative importance of topical information on foreign countries to the policy formulation, planning and operations of the National Security Council, its members, and other Federal organizations.

b. The Attachment to DCID 1/2 establishes a requirements categories and priorities classification system which provides a framework for both current operational requirements of the collection, production, and support functions, as well as for projecting mid- and longer-range requirements and priorities.

c. The requirements categories and their associated priorities are applicable to operations, planning, and programming, for the allocation and utilization of intelligence resources only in conjunction with other essential considerations, such as:

- (1) The adequacy of information and intelligence already available,
- (2) The feasible means of acquiring or producing needed additional intelligence,
- (3) The level of effectiveness of current resources, and
- (4) The expected impact of more or fewer resources.

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¹ This directive supersedes DCID No. 1/2 effective 18 May 1976.

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d. The extent to which the requirements categories and their associated priorities apply to a member organization of the Intelligence Community or its components will depend upon the scope of that organization's assigned mission and upon the specialized nature of its capabilities or restrictions on its geographic area of responsibility. Nevertheless, the priorities assigned to selected topical information in each country may be used by any organization or component as a reference in assessing the relative importance among its intelligence activities and/or products within the scope of its mission and capabilities.

3. *Reaction to crises*

Supplemental guidance from the Director of Central Intelligence may alter or override certain of the requirements categories and associated priorities promulgated in the attachment hereto to reflect the importance and urgency of transient crises and contingencies. Accordingly, managers of intelligence resources should maintain a capability to react to such situations.

4. *Revision*

The requirements categories and associated priorities set forth in the attachment are under continuing review and can be revised at any time at the request of and with appropriate participation of members of the Intelligence Community. A comprehensive review will be performed at least annually.

5. *Preparation and dissemination*

The Attachment to DCID 1/2 and changes thereto shall be prepared with Intelligence Community participation and disseminated by the Intelligence Community Staff upon the review and advice of the National Foreign Intelligence Board, for the Director of Central Intelligence.

E. H. Knoche

Acting Director of Central Intelligence

Attachment

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